



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse
Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

April 19, 2004

TO: Area/LME Directors
Area Program/LME Community Planning Designees

FROM: Stanley A. Slawinski, Ph.D., Chief
State Operated Services

RE: Initial Review of Community Plans for Developmental Center Downsizing

We have completed our initial review of area program community plans and want to share some preliminary feedback. Many of the plans will require follow-up, negotiation, and further exploration. You will receive individualized responses from our staff and the LME Team liaisons during the coming weeks.

Overall, the plans submitted to date represent an intent for communities to move 146 consumers out of the four developmental centers by June 30, 2005. The funding requests for community capacity expansion fell into one of five categories:

- 1) statement of plans to move one person at a time into existing system with no request for any funding or any plan for community capacity expansion;
- 2) request for funding assigned per individual to support movement into an existing group home or community ICF;
- 3) start up monies for new, additional group homes (14 total) or day services;
- 4) one-time funding to purchase training and/or consultant services;
- 5) funding to support additional full time positions within the area program/LME.

In our initial presentation of the Community Planning Model we stated that we would only be able to award Trust Fund money this year and that the money would have to be expended by June 30, 2004. We now know that we will be able to authorize Trust Fund expenditures through SFY 2004-2005. This will allow us to extend the timeline for community capacity development and to honor more of the planning efforts represented by the funding requests we have received.

Small Trust Fund requests that allow consumers to move in this calendar year will be approved as soon as possible in order to promote movement to the community. The more comprehensive plans will need further discussion prior to approval especially those that require significant state funding (rather than Medicaid receipts) to sustain the service availability in subsequent years.



State Operated Services and LME Liaison Team staff will be in communication with individual area programs to collect additional information and finalize negotiations. Should you have any questions please contact Carol Donin in State Operated Services at 919-733-3654.

SAS/ph

cc:	Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom	Patrice Roesler
	Lanier Cansler	Kaye Holder
	James Bernstein	Dick Oliver
	Mike Moseley	MRC Transition Coordinators
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